

life, family and humanity, for virtually every culture in the world. Yet what was supposed to be a joyous celebration was brutally cut short when followers of the terrorist Abu Musab al-Zarqawi carried out four simultaneous terrorist attacks. These unbridled and hateful acts killed 59 people, including the mother and father of the bride and the father of the groom.

Mr. Speaker, the line between good and evil could not be clearer.

The line between those who cherish life versus those who seek to destroy it could not be clearer.

The line between those with compassion in their hearts versus those with hatred could not be clearer.

The attacks in Jordan, just like those before it in Indonesia, Egypt, Spain and the United States, demonstrate that terrorism does not discriminate by race, ethnicity or region. Instead, terrorists indiscriminately target those seeking to live a peaceful, loving and free life.

All across Jordan, innocent and freedom-loving Jordanians fully understand this. Thousands of Jordanians have taken to the streets in protest of Zarqawi, "the coward." In the wake of these attacks, King Abdullah has announced a "National Agenda," which seeks to instill a more free and democratic political process and society.

We must hunt the terrorists down and kill them. There is no other way to respond to those so committed to the destruction of life. We must also stand with the Jordanian people and the Jordanian Government. And, this resolution does just that—making it clear that Congress and the American people are behind them during this difficult period.

TRIBUTE TO SPECIALIST MARK THOMPSON

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2005

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight one of my extraordinary constituents who is currently serving in Iraq. Specialist Mark Thompson from Tompkinsville, Kentucky recently wrote to me to express his thoughts on the situation in Iraq and I was truly moved by his articulate letter. I would like to share his letter with the House and I urge all of my colleagues to read Mark's letter and poem. I could not be anymore proud of Specialist Thompson and his service to our country.

OCTOBER 17, 2005.

Congressman ED WHITFIELD,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN WHITFIELD: I hope this letter finds you well. Politics seems heated as usual in the States and many new challenges are facing you and our country's other leaders. However, I am sure you are taking it all as it comes and continuing to try and find the most appropriate direction as issues arise.

I am currently serving in the Army at Camp Habbaniyah, Iraq. A huge change from my position as hospital administrator in Tompkinsville as you can imagine. But it has been a good experience to actually be here in this very troubled part of the World and be a part of this, first hand.

We are in the "Sunni Triangle" as this area has been described with a name. Ramadi

and Fallujah are within 10 to 15 miles of our base with us roughly in the middle. Both are noted hotbeds for insurgent activity as is this entire area of Northwest Iraq. We are experiencing much of the same that you see on TV back home.

I am sure one of those huge issues you are grappling with is what to support in regards to Operation Iraqi Freedom. I ask you to consider we are still making progress and this is a worthy cause at this point. We do far more good on a daily basis than is ever portrayed back home. Just Saturday (Day of the Voting) our troops helped a very sick 4 month old child get medical care in Baghdad. Also, we are actively training Iraqi troops to ultimately replace us and takeover complete operations of Camp Habbaniyah. Yes, there is much to be discouraged by on a regular basis but the momentum and atmosphere as a whole continues moving forward. The worst thing we can do is leave too soon and risk losing it all to civil war. At the same time we must let the Iraqi Army continue to take over responsibility for areas as soon as possible and the new government as well.

I see it like welfare. If we take on the responsibility for people too long they can literally fail to progress and be hampered by growing too dependent. We see that very real, negative potential as we work with soldiers and civilians.

The hard part is how much and when to pull back our support. I know that is something you are being challenged to help determine. Please, listen to sound military leaders as you sort that out. Please do not allow it to be a "public opinion" or "politically correct" decision. We stand to lose so much more from a bad decision. The Iraqi people stand to lose the most.

Finally, the vast majority of the people here are very worthy of what we are trying to help them achieve. It is the few that continue to make it so hard. I have attached a simple poem that I was inspired to write not long after coming here. I still believe that our primary intentions should be this simple and straight forward.

My best wishes to you as always.

Sincerely,

SPC. MARK THOMPSON.

THAT IS WHY WE CAME

As we crossed the Iraqi Border,
our lives never to be the same.
That's when it all seemed clearer,
why we left our families and came.

The harsh land layout before us,
with things we have yet to see.
But kids waving on roadsides,
unlocked hope inside for me.

Not much do they have and own,
but gestures that tell their soul,
Too young yet to know true hate,
faith, hope and love are still in control.

Who knows where freedom will take them,
and will elders allow it to last?
Can they hold onto it with passion,
and never repeat the past?

It is the children we came for,
their love should govern this land.
Who knows where their dreams can take us,
if not poisoned with History's Brand.

I pray tonight for a new World,
where all kids are safe from harm.
That these children can play like mine,
in a neighborhood, friendly and warm.

They are the reason we came,
their hope from faith we must let soar.
With love let's finish the task,
and for them leave open the door.

HONORING BAYLOR UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2005

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to help celebrate the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the first adult liver transplant program serving Tarrant County and Baylor University Medical Center at Dallas. In 1985, Baylor University Medical Center recruited Dr. Goran B. Klintmalm, a highly skilled surgeon to begin the new adult liver transplant program and to enhance each facility's medical and surgical capabilities.

Baylor University Medical Center has transplanted more than 4,500 organs in patients around the world. The program has been replicated at Baylor All Saints Medical Center in Fort Worth, allowing Baylor Health Care Systems to expand their services to Tarrant County.

I would like to honor Baylor University Medical Center, along with the doctors, nurses and hospital administration that make extraordinary organ transplants possible. Their dedication to the medical profession and their commitment to saving lives is to be commended.

SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO KENNETH "BLUE" BALCOMB—A FIERCE DEFENDER OF WATER RIGHTS IN COLORADO

HON. JOHN T. SALAZAR

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2005

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my condolences to the Balcomb family of Glenwood Springs, Colorado who recently experienced a tragic loss with the death of Kenneth "Blue" Balcomb. He passed away on November 17th.

Recently, I had the opportunity to get to know Ken. He was a brilliant, devoted and talented person. Because of his genius, water on the Western Slope of Colorado will be protected for generations. Mr. Balcomb died Thursday and will be missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing and working with him.

Ken Balcomb was General Counsel for the Colorado River Water Conservation District from the early 1960s until 1981 when the District hired in-house counsel. Under Mr. Balcomb's advice and leadership, the River District successfully fought back aggressive water filings by Front Range cities and irrigation districts thirsting for West Slope water. It also fought federal intrusion into Colorado's state-run water rights system, ensuring that the federal government adjudicate its water rights like everyone else through Colorado's water courts. On this point, Mr. Balcomb represented the River District on three occasions before the U.S. Supreme Court, leaving victorious each time.

I grew to know Ken over the last year and he never hesitated to offer his experience, knowledge and assistance to myself and others.

Ken was certainly an inspiration to me and to everyone who had the opportunity to meet

him, and I am grateful for the short amount of time I was able to spend with him. I know my life and the lives of those he knew and loved were enriched by his presence, and he will surely be missed.

I agree with the Colorado River Water Conservation District—Western Colorado lost a true friend and leader with the passing of Kenneth Balcomb.

IN HONOR OF REVEREND DR.
ROLAND H. CROWDER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Reverend Dr. Roland H. Crowder, upon the joyous celebration of his 40th Anniversary as Pastor of Second Calvary Missionary Baptist Church in Cleveland, Ohio.

Reverend Crowder was born in Cleveland in 1926, into meager beginnings, yet the promise of faith and family would raise his life into the light of leadership, accomplishment and service to others. Just an infant, Reverend Crowder was adopted by Emma and Reverend Edward Griggs. Tragedy struck shortly thereafter when his young mother died and his father became very ill after suffering a stroke. Young Roland was up for adoption again, yet his neighbors across the street, Mr. and Mrs. Will Crowder, opened their hearts and home to him and became his new parents. The family moved to Birmingham, where Reverend Crowder's parents taught him lifelong values that centered on integrity, hard work, family, faith and service to others.

In 1950, following his honorable service in the United States Navy, Reverend Crowder heeded the call to the ministry. After his father passed away, he and his mother returned to Cleveland in 1965, where he began his ministry at the Second Calvary Missionary Baptist Church. Fortified with an undergraduate degree, graduate degree from Malone College and a doctoral degree in theology from the Ashland Theological Seminary, and most significantly, equipped with valuable life experience, Reverend Crowder set the foundation for his life long journey of restoring faith and hope within the hearts of people here in Cleveland and around the world. Reverend Crowder and his late wife, Doris G. Crowder, were married for forty-five years. Together they raised five children: Roland Jr., Lydia, Rosalind, Hiram and the late Phillip. Today, Reverend Crowder and his wife, Sister Ida B. Cook Crowder, continue to serve in faithful ministry and community outreach to the congregation of Second Calvary Missionary Baptist Church.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Reverend Doctor Roland Hayes Crowder, whose compassionate leadership and guidance has been reflected throughout the Second Calvary Missionary Baptist Church of Cleveland, Ohio, for forty years. His commitment, kindness and caring for people in need of emotional and spiritual restoration continues to lift the spirits of countless individuals, and will forever bring faith, hope and light throughout our entire community and far beyond.

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DALLAS COUNTY COUNCIL OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2005

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Dallas County Council of Republican Women's Clubs. Fifty years ago, 17 Republican Women's groups joined to form an alliance, based on the guiding principle of the National Federation of Republican Women, "to foster and encourage loyalty to the Republican Party and the ideals for which it stands."

For the past fifty years, the Dallas County Council of Republican Women have worked together to support Republican Women's groups in the area as they promote the principles of the Grand Old Party and help elect Republican leaders from the Courthouse to the White House. The Dallas County Council of Republican Women continue to serve Republican Women's Clubs through meetings, a council newsletter, and training seminars.

Today, I would like to honor the Dallas County Council of Republican Women and their leaders, including: Pat Jordan (1955), Eleanor Owens (1956), Tilla Lindsey (1956), Mary Jester (1957), Dorothy Cameron (1959), Bobbie Biggert (1960), Glenna McCord (1960, 1961, 1962), Babs Johnson (1963, 1964), Linda Holloway (1965), Ann Good (1965), Alice Hale (1966), Jonita Hilton, (1967), Ann Nicholson (1968, 1969), Peeps Moffett (1970), Jan Bryant (1970), Iris Snell (1971, 1972), Dottie Beckham (1972, 1973, 1974), Barbara Staff (1975), Ruth Potter (1976, 1977), Ginny Bauman (1978), Shirley Dickinson (1979, 1980), Jean Rheudasil (1981, 1982), Marianna Ziegler (1983, 1984), Jan Patterson (1985, 1986), Edith Schuler (1987), Lynne Tweedell (1989), Alma Box (1991, 1992), Betty Duke (1993, 1994), Sandy Melton Stephens (1995, 1996), Sue Hutchins (1997, 1998), Rosella Hutchinson (1999, 2000), Taffy Goldsmith (2001, 2002), Valerie E. Ertz (2003, 2004), Deborah Brown (2005). These strong Republican women embody the energy, vision and values of our party.

TEN YEARS AFTER DAYTON

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2005

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, ten years ago this month a genocidal conflict was brought to an end in the Balkans. By initiating a "General Framework for Peace" at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton, Ohio, on November 21, 1995, Bosnia and Herzegovina emerged from almost four years of that conflict wondering whether it could survive as an independent unitary state and recover from the utter destruction not only of its towns and cities but of its own, multi-ethnic society.

Time dulls our recollection of what the carnage in Bosnia was really about, so I believe it important to recall the nature of this, the

most horrific phase of Yugoslavia's violent and bloody demise. Active on the Helsinki Commission which I co-chair today, I took part in many sobering hearings which documented the atrocities and discussed policy responses.

The Bosnian conflict was, in large part, characterized not by opposing military forces but by groups of thugs, armed and orchestrated by the Milosevic regime in Serbia, wreaking havoc on innocent civilians. Tens of thousands were raped or tortured in detention centers and camps established across the country. While figures may vary substantially, the death toll is commonly estimated at about 200,000, while two million people—half the country's population—were displaced. We can well remember the photos of emaciated detainees at Omarska, the live coverage of the shelling and siege of Sarajevo, and the recently released video footage of the execution of captured young men near Srebrenica.

While the decreasing advantages enjoyed by the Serb militants by late 1995 made a settlement possible, the Dayton Agreement did, in fact, help to bring this nightmare to an end. At the same time, we cannot ignore the fact that its compromises reflect a failure by the international community, including the United States, to intervene much earlier in the conflict in response to clear violations of international principles and what many, including myself, consider a genocide.

The international community repeatedly failed to take decisive action, including the credible threat of the use of force, to compel the brazen Serb militants to stop their aggression. Instead, time was spent deploying peacekeeping forces under United Nations auspices when there was no peace to keep. UNPROFOR's presence thwarted more effective responses, such as lifting the arms embargo which denied the sovereign country of Bosnia and Herzegovina its right, as a member of the United Nations, to defend itself. As town after town, including some declared to be "safe-havens" by the United Nations, fell to the forces of ethnic cleansing, the international community acquiesced to a reality, codified by Dayton, of a country divided into two political entities characterized by an ethnic bias unworthy of 21st century democracy. One entity is a Bosnian Federation forged by the United States in 1994 between Bosnia's Muslims or Bosniaks, and Croats. The other entity, Republika Srpska, is dominated by Serbs and represents what the militants among them started the conflict to create.

The compromises accepted at Dayton, influenced by years of international inaction, also have made subsequent implementation difficult, and extremely expensive in terms of personnel, equipment and funds. Many persons indicted for war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide evaded justice for years, some to wreak havoc later in Kosovo and elsewhere, and some like Ratko Mladic and Radovan Karadzic, remain at large. With the economy destroyed and both organized crime and official corruption rampant, the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina became passive and dependent on the international community for their very survival.

Perhaps the greatest flaw in the Dayton Agreement was its heavy reliance on Slobodan Milosevic himself to follow its terms, which he did only under considerable pressure. Betting on the man most responsible for igniting the conflict meant undercutting the development of democratic forces in Serbia